

# The Pacific Commercial Advertiser

U. S. WEATHER BUREAU, AUGUST 10.—Last 24 hours' rainfall, .02.  
Temperature, Max. 84, Min. 75. Weather, fair to showery.

SUGAR—96 Degree Test Centrifugals, 3.875c; Per Ton, \$77.50.  
SS Analysis Beets, 9s. 0 3-4d; Per Ton, \$79.

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1906.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## ATTEMPT TO WHITEWASH HENRY VIDA

**Motion to Drop Investigation Fails---Police  
Witnesses Strangely Unanimous---Light-  
foot Had a Kick Coming.**

Chapter one of the investigation by the Board of Supervisors of the charges of gross cruelty made against Sheriff's assistant Henry Vida by Yi Marn Young, came to a tame ending last night, the session being continued until Tuesday evening next.

The whitewash pail was exhibited over early in the evening by Supervisor Moore who moved that the investigation be dropped as the case was to be brought before the grand jury. No seconder was found and the investigation proceeded.

Attorney Lightfoot stated that the charges would certainly be laid before the grand jury but was personally desirous of having the board investigate the case to the bottom.

Yi Marn Young told a straightforward story of terrible torture endured by him within the confines of the police station, the torture, he alleged, having been inflicted by Vida in an attempt to wring a confession from him.

Numerous questions by the board failed to shake the witness' testimony one iota.

Sheriff Brown, Vida, Joe Leal, Choy and Jack Melanphy took the stand for the defense and testified as if reciting a school lesson. Cruelty to a prisoner! The very idea of it! Whoever said cruelty? The trouble was that the prisoners were treated too well. Yes, indeed!

Attorney Lightfoot protested vigorously that he had not been allowed to cross-examine the police witnesses. He said that he would dearly love to do so. He expressed his willingness and ability to produce evidence corroborative of that offered by Vida's alleged victim and the board adjourned in order to give him an opportunity to do this.

The Board of Supervisors met last night at the written request of Sheriff Brown to investigate the charges of gross cruelty alleged to have been practiced on a Korean named Yi Marn Young by Sheriff's Assistant Vida.

Present were Chairman Smith, Supervisors Cox, Lucas, Moore, Archer, Clerks Kalaokalani and Buffandeau, Sheriff Brown, Sheriff's Assistant Vida, Stenographers Kearns and Churton, County Engineer Guy Gere, Attorney Lightfoot, Detective Lake, L. G. Blackman, Officers Milki, Joe Leal, Manuel Leal, Fred Weed, County Attorney Douthitt, Warden Woods, Interpreter Yuen, members of the press and several police employees.

Attorney Lightfoot, who watched the proceedings on behalf of Yi Marn Young, stated in response to a question by Moore that the case would be taken before the grand jury and Vida criminally prosecuted if an indictment were returned.

Archer asked why, if the case was going to be attended to by the jury, should the Supervisors conduct an investigation?

Lucas was of the same opinion as Archer. He thought that if the grand jury were going to have the case brought to their notice it would entail unnecessary investigation if the board bothered with the case.

"There is no need to investigate, it seems to me," said Archer. Cox kokked.

Lightfoot stated that he was employed to defend the Korean and had no interest in the relations between the Board of Supervisors and the officers of the county. Personally he would be glad if the board investigated the case to the bottom.

"We can only investigate and recommend the removal of Vida if he is found guilty," remarked the chair.

Sheriff Brown said that he had investigated the charges and personally would like to have the board investigate them. The jury would not meet until next month and it was rough on Vida to have the charges hanging over him for such a long time. If the board thought it best for the jury to investigate, he was perfectly willing to let it go at that. He had asked the board to investigate and thought that he had done his duty in the matter.

Moore moved that the investigation be dropped. There was no second.

Archer said that the affidavit published in the newspapers should be ignored and the evidence of Yi Marn Young taken on the spot.

Yi Marn Young was first called. His story as told to the board was as follows:

On March 15 in the afternoon a Korean came to him and told him that a friend wanted to see him. He found the friend to be a policeman and was taken to the police station, where he was searched and asked where he had put the revolver with which he had shot a countryman. He denied knowledge of any revolver and was then put in a cell. About 7 p. m. he was called to Vida's office, where Vida asked him to tell the truth about the shooting. He denied knowledge of shooting anybody and was told that unless he confessed he would be killed that night. He was then struck by Vida several times in the body with his closed fist. Vida insisted that he should confess, but the Korean protested innocence. Vida then said that if he didn't tell the truth in five minutes he would kill him. After five minutes Vida again punched him and threatened to "fix" him and to kill him, addressing him profanely. The evening of the next day he was again called to Vida's office, where were two policemen. Vida again said he would kill him if he did not tell the truth. The Korean was then bound with ropes, gagged and placed on a large box, after which water was poured in his eyes, nose and mouth. On being again admonished to tell the truth he said he was innocent and had nothing to tell. Vida then struck him with his fist, then gave him three minutes in which to confess before he killed him. Next the Korean was blindfolded and his arms bound and was told that he would be thrown into a pipe which ran down into the sea. He was told to pray to God to have mercy on his soul. Thinking he was going to die, he prayed. A little later he was stretched on the floor and given the water cure again. Vida then said as it was late he would not kill him until the following night. The third night he was again summoned to the office and told to tell the truth and stand straight like a soldier. Vida then drew a revolver and pointed it at the man and said he would shoot him. The Korean's neck was then encircled with a rope and Vida pulled on one end and a policeman on the other until his senses left him and in despair he murmured "yes." For a while the man was left bound and then released and revived by Vida and the policeman, who told him that he had confessed. During the two days he was given neither food nor water until after he had said "yes." He had asked a policeman for water but was told that Vida had said that he mustn't be given any. He wasn't even allowed to have water with which to wash his face. Vida, after he had confessed, gave a policeman a quarter and he was given a meal in a Chinese restaurant. The next day he was taken before the judge of the District Court.

Chairman asked witness a few questions touching on his evidence and Lucas did likewise, eliciting the fact that Officer Joe Leal was the man who had poured the water on him.

Cox wanted to know if anybody else witnessed the torture, but got no satisfaction on that point, the question being ruled out.

Yi Marn Young recognized Vida as the man who had tortured him.

Henry Vida was then called. He testified to Yi Marn Young's arrest.

The same evening he called him into the office and questioned him as to the shooting without obtaining any satisfactory answer from him. He denied having beaten him or threatened him in any way. The Korean had not been deprived of food or water for three days or submitted to any ill-treatment whatever. Yi Marn Young had confessed to the shooting after being confronted with his revolver and the man with whom he had stayed at Ewa the night after the alleged shooting. Manuel Leal had taken him out for a meal on the night in question.

Smith asked for testimony corroborative of Yi Marn Young's charges. The Korean said that Lightfoot had some, but the attorney said that all he knew of the case was merely hearsay.

Sheriff Brown testified that as far as he knew Yi Marn Young had been submitted to no violence or ill-treatment. Had there been, he would certainly have heard of it. No complaint had been made to him by the Korean. It was impossible that a prisoner could be deprived of food unless the order had come from him.

Officer Joe Leal corroborated the Sheriff's testimony and a Korean named Choy did likewise.

Turnkey Melanphy knew nothing of any ill-treatment of Yi Marn Young. He was certain that he had eaten and

(Continued on Page 4.)

## Hawaii Is Safe From Earthquakes

"I would say that there is a very slight possibility of there ever being an earthquake of any magnitude in the Hawaiian Islands."

The speaker was Professor F. Omori, a leading scientist of Japan, who is just returning on the Doric from California, where he had been sent by the Japanese government to investigate the recent earthquake. He is recognized as among the world's leading authorities on seismic questions. The professor is an extremely affable man and discussed his mission to America and his opinions quite freely.

"It is noticeable," he said, "that in the immediate neighborhood of large active volcanoes, such as here, that there are no violent earthquake shocks. Naples, for instance, is free of them. And it is therefore quite safe to say that these islands will never be visited by such a shock as has been had in California."

"That earthquake was extraordinary in the extent of the area affected and in its surface manifestations. Much of the affected area extended under the sea, for at least 150 miles, I should say, giving it an extreme length of 550 miles. The center of the disturbance was some distance from San Francisco, fortunately, where the earthquake itself did little damage in comparison with that inflicted by the fire which followed."

"In my opinion that portion of California will now be immune from serious shocks for at least thirty years, and it may never have as bad a one as that of last April for ages. This is the opinion that I gave to the Californians, and I see that the Union Pacific have had my letter lithographed and are sending it all over America."

"I received some marked copies of the Advertiser with an article in it referring to some trouble I had with hoodlums in San Francisco. I was very glad to see that the people of Hawaii did not like to have me treated in that way, but then it did me no injury and I bear no malice. There are hoodlums in all countries. The people of California treated me extremely well and I am very much pleased with my trip."

## LANE OUT FOR VIDA APPEALS IN SAKE CASES

**Notes Here and There  
Among Party  
Workers.**

It seems there is an unwritten law that if the candidate for sheriff is to come from the Fourth Precinct the deputy is to be picked up in the Fifth. Therefore Vida. "It might have been Kalakieia before he lost his ticket in the club election," said Senator Lane yesterday, "but when he lost there he lost all chances for the nomination for deputy sheriff."

That means that Vida is to have the nomination whether the public wants him or not. If the machine is the public he will go in. If the machine has his way Vida will go in anyway. According to the general John, Vida and no one else in the Fifth can deliver the goods.

"Vida has made a good officer in the police department," said Lane, "and he was a good man in the House. I have never heard anything against his integrity so why should he not get the place. To my mind there is not a suspicion of his grafting, at least I do not believe it, and I have never heard anything against him. But suppose there is a feeling detrimental to him, it is not general. There may be seventy-five, perhaps a hundred people who will believe the rumors against him and who spread them but even that will not prevent his getting the nomination. I know Vida as well as anyone and his handling of the funds of the precinct was as fair as we would ask. He ran things economically and that is more than can be said of the administration of Achil. Charlie ran things extravagantly and he was not so good as Vida. I do not believe Vida's connection with the police department has anything to do with the opposition to Sheriff Brown and I do not believe his nomination will affect Brown's candidacy one way or the other."

LANE'S CANDIDATE.

"There is only one logical candidate for the office of sheriff at this time and that is Brown," continued the Senator. "Of course there may be a change between now and election but I cannot think there will be any. I opposed Crabbe in the club elections as I do now, for personal reasons first, and because I do not want any Achil leadership in the Fifth Precinct. Achil cannot be a leader of my faction; he can flock alone as far as I am concerned. In the Legislature he acted all right."

(Continued on Page 2.)

**The Government Will  
Try a Higher  
Court.**

(Mail Special to the Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 28.—Mr. Fred M. Bechtel, of the immigration service, who is in charge of the station at Honolulu, has been in town this week on his way to his home in Pennsylvania. He stopped off here for a day only and had a little talk with Commissioner F. P. Sargent.

There was little in the conversation, however, of public interest, as it dealt largely with routine matters at the Honolulu station. Mr. Bechtel told the Commissioner about the movements of Japanese from the island to the mainland and assured him that the Japanese were quite as active as ever in using the Hawaiian Islands as a base from which to reach the United States, especially Washington, Oregon and California, where they are finding employment. As is already well understood in Hawaii, the Government is powerless to prevent this and its officials are simply keeping watch on this immigration because of its bearing on the consideration of the question by the State Department or by Congress at some future time.

The Postoffice Department announces the appointment of Henry W. Schmidt as a fourth-class postmaster at Koloa, Kauai County, in place of A. Buckholtz, who resigned. Mr. Schmidt's commission has probably already reached him.

SAKE CASES TO BE APPEALED. The Treasury Department has been considering the famous sake cases which Col. Tom Fitch and Harry Johnson, representing the Honolulu claimants, recently won before the United States District Court in San Francisco, and it has been announced here this week that the Government will take an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

"We have decided to carry these cases higher," said Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Reynolds, after he had consulted with Secretary Shaw. "The fight has been a long one and the Government is not disposed to yield its contention. The decision is of importance in many cities, because the consumption of that kind of liquor is increasing. The increase is very notable in such cities as New York and Boston."

If necessary it is probable the gov-

(Continued on page 3.)

## PERSIA'S SHAH AUTHORIZES A PARLIAMENT

**Railway Companies Indicted---Chinese Labor  
for Panama Canal---Root in Uruguay---  
Torpedo Boat Accident.**

(Associated Press Cablegrams.)

TEHERAN, Persia, August 11.—The Shah has agreed to the creation of a national assembly, to be composed of the royal princes, the clergy, dignitaries and merchants.

### SUICIDE OF BANK TELLER.

CHICAGO, August 11.—Kowalski, the teller of the Milwaukee Avenue State Bank, which failed recently, has committed suicide. He was not connected in the scandal from which other bank officials fled and for which the cashier is now in custody.

### INDICTED FOR REBATES.

NEW YORK, August 11.—Indictments have been returned by the grand jury against several railroad companies for the granting of rebates to the sugar trust.

### EXPLOSION ON TORPEDO BOAT.

NORFOLK, Va., August 11.—Through an explosion on the torpedo boat Worden, six men were severely burned.

### CHINESE FOR PANAMA.

WASHINGTON, August 11.—It has been decided that Chinese are to be employed on the Panama canal work.

### ROOT AT MONTEVIDEO.

MONTEVIDEO, August 11.—Secretary Root was given an ovation on his arrival here.

### HERMAN GETS DECISION.

INDIANAPOLIS, August 11.—Herman was given the decision last night over Yanger.

### NELSON AND GANS.

GOLDFIELD, Nev., August 11.—Nelson and Gans have signed the agreement to fight here.

## BRIEF CHRONICLES OF NEWS IN THE COAST FILES

NEW YORK, August 3.—Most of the morning papers print a story to the effect that Claus Spreckels, the sugar king of the Pacific Coast, is to become a resident of this city. He will join the group of millionaire captains of industry here, having purchased today the white marble house of Isaac Stern on Fifth avenue. The Stern house is between Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth streets. On the Sixty-seventh street, northeast corner, is the home of George J. Gould. Next to it is the property sold to Spreckels. Adjoining the house which is at the corner of Sixty-eighth street is that of the late Charles T. Yerkes. Across Sixty-eighth street is the Whitney mansion, which is now owned by James Henry Smith. Herman O. Armour will also be a neighbor of Spreckels. It is believed Spreckels' decision to come here to live will be a surprise to the money powers of the Pacific coast.

The Chronicle says: Claus Spreckels is at Ayres for a few days' rest and could not be reached, but Rudolph Spreckels, who in his father's absence represents the Claus Spreckels interests, said: "It is not true that my father contemplates making New York his home and that he has purchased a mansion on Fifth avenue. My father's business and home interests are in San Francisco, and he does not intend to desert the city."

VOLCANO ENLARGES SAVAIL. TUTUILA (Samoa), July 9.—The volcanoes on Savail are still active and the island is increasing in area. New

springs have appeared where water was unknown before. There is a heavy deposit of sulphur and other substance which grows prolifically. As the steam there are some places where ashes have fallen and the Samoans are utilizing those places for planting taro, which grows prolifically. As the steam rises from the sea, where the lava flows at the present time, a sulphurous vapor is evolved and, when carried with the wind, destroys all vegetation in its path. So far no life has been lost, although the eruptions occurred in one of the most thickly settled parts of Samoa.

The Samoans of the eastern district of Tutuila have resolved to build a school and to employ white teachers to instruct their children in English.

A petition asking for the retention of C. B. T. Moore as Governor of American Samoa has been sent to President Roosevelt.

### POPE LEO'S BODY.

ROME, July 28.—The body of Pope Leo XIII will be secretly removed from the Vatican to the Lateran, where the late Pontiff decreed by his will that his remains should finally rest. When the body of Pius IX. in 1881 was carried at midnight to the Church of San Lorenzo an attempt was made to cast it into the Tiber. Although a repetition of the outrage is not now expected, the Vatican unofficially asked for police assurances of a safe transit before the decision as to the removal was taken.

The government was willing to give the funeral a solemn character by having it take place in the day time with

(Continued on Page 4.)